

# Rifles & Pools

HOOSIER RIVERWATCH-INDIANA'S VOLUNTEER WATER MONITORING PROGRAM

## 2001 Grant Applications

Are you a member of a school, nonprofit organization or governmental agency in Indiana who is interested in participating in volunteer water quality monitoring? If so, you are eligible to apply for a 2001 Hoosier Riverwatch equipment grant.

Equipment grants include materials needed to conduct physical, biological and chemical stream sampling. You can apply for either of the following grants:

- ◆ **Standard** - Includes the GREEN/LaMotte Standard Water Monitoring Kit; suitable for elementary and middle school students and adults desiring simpler chemistry.
- ◆ **Advanced** - Includes the Hach Stream Survey Testing Kit; ideal for high school and adult groups desiring higher quality monitoring results.

Grant applications are available at our web site [www.state.in.us/dnr/soilcons/riverwatch](http://www.state.in.us/dnr/soilcons/riverwatch) or call, fax, or email Hoosier Riverwatch to request an application. Grants will be awarded in Spring 2001, but apply early to increase your chances of receiving a grant!

## New Training Manual Ready...*Finally!!!*

After many months of work, our manual revisions are complete! In November, the new training manual will be sent to all Soil and Water Conservation Districts, all 1999-2000 grant recipients, as well as this year's workshop participants. Major changes to the manual include:

- ◆ The Citizen's Qualitative Habitat Evaluation Index (CQHEI) replaces the Site Survey data sheet. It is more straightforward and you get a total score at the end!
- ◆ Two sets of chemical testing instructions and datasheets for the two levels of chemical testing: Standard and Advanced.
- ◆ The water quality index no longer requires that you test for total solids - weighting factors were adjusted to account for this change.
- ◆ We created a Chemical Monitoring Worksheet to help track test results and average values when multiple samples are taken. You may also record "optional" test results (e.g. Total Solids, Ammonia).



- ◆ New user-friendly format for macroinvertebrate identification.
- ◆ Addition of several new sections, including instructions for use of the new Volunteer Monitoring Internet Database.

If you are not in one of the groups **automatically** receiving the manual and you are interested in the program or actively monitoring, please contact us to request a copy. This is the version of the manual that Hoosier Riverwatch now uses, and we would like all volunteers to begin using the new datasheets as soon as possible.

Due to the high cost of printing, it will be difficult for us to satisfy requests for multiple copies of the manual. Therefore, only one copy per request can be provided. However, please feel free to make copies to distribute to others interested in the program. We also encourage you to download the manual from our new website (see article page 2). We are very excited to introduce the new and improved Riverwatch training manual to all of you!

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# 2001 Training Workshop Requests

Are you interested in scheduling a Hoosier Riverwatch workshop in your area? Believe it or not, we are already starting to plan our 2001 training workshop schedule! The training season will run roughly from May through October. Remember, in order to submit data to Hoosier Riverwatch, and to satisfy our grant requirements, volunteers are required to attend training workshops.

Our training workshops are not possible without local hosts and sponsors. In order to conduct a workshop in your area, we need someone who will act as host, making site arrangements, taking registration information from participants, and publicizing the event. Please contact

our office to request more detailed guidelines for hosting a workshop.

Finally, consider the number of people you believe would be interested in attending a workshop in your area. We require a minimum of 12 - maximum of 24 participants in order to hold Level 1 workshops, and a minimum of 8 - maximum of 16 participants for Level 2 workshops.

If you are interested in scheduling a workshop in your area, please contact us at (317) 541-0617 or email Mandy at [riverinfo@ameritech.net](mailto:riverinfo@ameritech.net). Please include preferred dates/months if you have them - we'll do our best to accommodate as many requests as possible.

## New Riverwatch Website

Hoosier Riverwatch is proud to announce the arrival of our brand new website. It is still located at [www.state.in.us/dnr/soilcons/riverwatch](http://www.state.in.us/dnr/soilcons/riverwatch) - so you don't need to change your bookmark! The site provides information on how to become involved with the volunteer monitoring and Adopt-A-River programs. It also includes a calendar of upcoming events, grant application information, data sheets, and a link to the new Volunteer Monitoring Internet Database (see article below). The Hoosier Riverwatch Volunteer Stream Monitoring Training Manual is now available on our website, as well. We hope you'll have a chance to visit it soon!



## New Volunteer Stream Monitoring Internet Database



Several Hoosier Riverwatch volunteers have already entered data into the new Internet Database - have you tried it out yet? The database is located at [www.HoosierRiverwatch.com](http://www.HoosierRiverwatch.com) and is also linked to our new website (see article above).

Only volunteers who have been certified through a Hoosier Riverwatch Level 1 and/or 2 training workshop (or approved equivalent) can submit data to the statewide database.

It is important for you to understand that the data entry screens are formatted to match the new & revised data sheets in the new training manual. However, we strongly encourage you to enter past data from your Chemical and Biological monitoring data sheets, since these data sheets have not changed significantly.

Instructions are included throughout the database itself. If you have trouble, you can download the training manual from our website. You may also want to keep these instructions handy.

### Hints for Data Entry

- ◆ Some fields are required and you can not continue until they are filled-in.

1. The first step is to **Register**. You must register yourself, your organization, and your stream site(s). You will receive a Volunteer ID #, and a Site ID # for each site registered. These numbers are very important - write them down! You also need to know the database password: **dragonfly**.

***Your Volunteer ID and Site ID numbers are assigned to you by the database when you register.***

2. The next step is to **Enter Data**. You need your Volunteer and Site ID #'s here. The password is the same: **dragonfly**.

- ◆ Enter data one site at a time - also enter date, time, current and past weather, and the number of adult and student participants.

- ◆ Select which datasheet you want to enter data into: Stream Flow, CQHEI, Advanced Chemical, Biological, or Standard Chemical
- ◆ Some past data sheets cannot be entered (Site Survey and the Site map).

The Standard Chemical data sheet is for use with the GREEN kit. Use the Advanced data sheet with the Hach kit. Only enter chemical testing data on one of these data sheets, not both.

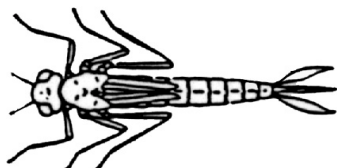
The database performs most data calculations for you when you click on "Review Data and View Calculations." The next screen displays final results you can print for your files. Finally, click on "Submit to Hoosier Riverwatch" to submit your final results. After this step, the only way revisions can be made is by contacting the Riverwatch office.

The database also allows you to search for data entered by volunteers throughout the state. If you have questions about the registration, data entry, or the data search processes, please contact Hoosier Riverwatch.

# Volunteer Water Monitoring Instructor Training

Hoosier Riverwatch is once again looking for 10 super volunteers to participate in the first Volunteer Water Monitoring Instructor Training. Unfortunately the first training workshop, scheduled for October 2000, was cancelled. However, we have rescheduled and are already accepting applications for the 2-day (overnight) training to be held **March 23-24, 2001** at Camp Alexander Mack in Milford, Indiana (between Fort Wayne and South Bend).

We hope that by providing you with advanced notice, we will be able to draw potential instructors from all over the state to participate in this exciting event. Hoosier Riverwatch will provide lodging for 2 nights (beginning Thursday evening) and 5 meals (beginning Friday morning) at Camp Mack for all workshop participants.



What are Water Monitoring Instructors? Instructors are similar to what other DNR education programs (Project WET, WILD, and Learning Tree) call facilitators. They will:

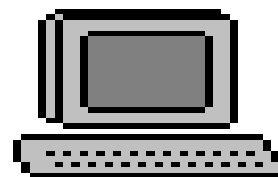
- ◆ Teach Level 1 and/or 2 training workshops - depending upon experience and comfort level
- ◆ Have the use of Water Monitoring Education Trunks for teaching
- ◆ Serve as a local contact and mentor for volunteer monitors.
- ◆ Provide presentations and exhibits to groups about Riverwatch and help recruit new volunteers.

What are the requirements?

- ◆ Level 1 and 2 Riverwatch training
- ◆ Time, motivation, and enthusiasm to organize and conduct workshops
- ◆ Water quality monitoring experience
- ◆ Being comfortable teaching and speaking to small and large groups.

Completion of an instructor application is required, and we are currently accepting applications for the March

Does your group or organization have a website?



If so, **contact Hoosier Riverwatch**, and we'll link it to OUR new website!!!

Workshop. Please contact us via phone, fax, or email to receive a "job description" and application form.

It is important to note that this is just the **FIRST**, not the last Instructor Training Workshop. Development and operation of this program will be funded by 319 grants from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) for the next 2 years. Two Instructor training workshops will be held each year. Each workshop will be limited to 10 participants. If you think you may not be ready for the March training, there will be many more opportunities, including a workshop in late summer or fall 2001!

## Macroinvertebrates Online!

Many of you have requested additional resources to aid in macroinvertebrate identification. The following are just a few of the numerous websites dedicated to macroinvertebrates. These sites were included in the Spring 2000 issue of *The Volunteer Monitor*, available online at [www.epa.gov/owow/volunteer/vm\\_index.html](http://www.epa.gov/owow/volunteer/vm_index.html).

### Macroinvertebrate Pictures

**Missouri Stream Team-Macroinvertebrate Pictures**  
[www.mostreamteam.org/macrov/index.html](http://www.mostreamteam.org/macrov/index.html)

**Stonefly Photos and Drawings**  
[www.mc.edu/~stark](http://www.mc.edu/~stark)

**Common Aquatic Insects**  
[members.tripod.com/t-driskell/insecta.html](http://members.tripod.com/t-driskell/insecta.html)

### Macroinvertebrate Identification Keys

**Guide to Freshwater Invertebrates**  
[www.seanet.com/~leska/Online/Guide.html](http://www.seanet.com/~leska/Online/Guide.html)

**Kentucky Water Watch Key**  
[fluid.state.ky.us/ww/bugs/orderkey.htm#](http://fluid.state.ky.us/ww/bugs/orderkey.htm#)

**Izaak Walton League of America Key**  
[www.people.virginia.edu/~sos-iwla/Stream-Study/Key/MacroKeyIntro.HTML](http://www.people.virginia.edu/~sos-iwla/Stream-Study/Key/MacroKeyIntro.HTML)

**Simple Aquatic Insect Identification**  
[www.education.lanl.gov/RESOURCES/NTEP95/Aquatic\\_Insects/Aquatic\\_Insect\\_ID.html](http://www.education.lanl.gov/RESOURCES/NTEP95/Aquatic_Insects/Aquatic_Insect_ID.html)

### Macroinvertebrate Ecology

**Freshwater Benthic Ecology and Aquatic Entomology**  
[www.chebucto.ns.ca/Science/SWCS/benthos.html](http://www.chebucto.ns.ca/Science/SWCS/benthos.html)

**Dragonflies**  
[www.marketing.wharton.upenn.edu/~johnc/dragonfly.html](http://www.marketing.wharton.upenn.edu/~johnc/dragonfly.html)

**Natural History - Mayflies, Stoneflies, Caddisflies**  
[www.nearctica.com/nathist/insects/aquatic.htm](http://www.nearctica.com/nathist/insects/aquatic.htm)

**EPA Bioindicators**  
[www.epa.gov/ceisweb1/ceishome/atlas/bioindicators/keyconcepts.html](http://www.epa.gov/ceisweb1/ceishome/atlas/bioindicators/keyconcepts.html)

## WANTED: Success Stories

Have your students made a difference in their community through volunteer monitoring? Was your Adopt-A-River group able to bring together local citizens for a river clean up? If so, Hoosier Riverwatch wants to hear from **you!**

If you have an inspirational success story pertaining to volunteer monitoring or the Adopt-A-River program, we would love to include it in our Hoosier Riverwatch newsletter.

Please mail, email or fax any success stories that you would like to share with other volunteers to the Riverwatch office. Your story may inspire other groups to get involved!

## Education Center Update

Construction of the Natural Resources Education Center (NREC) at Ft. Harrison State Park is nearly complete. Hoosier Riverwatch, Go FishIN, Project Learning Tree, Project WET, and Project WILD plan to move into their new offices before the end of November. In addition to the new offices, the NREC will offer training facilities and two environmental education resource libraries.

We are currently looking for a full-time receptionist for the NREC. This person will greet visitors, answer phones, and assist with daily operations from our new atrium. If you are interested, please contact us for information.

## Welcome 3 New Adopt-A-River Groups!

**Marks On Paper.com**  
**St. Joseph River (South Bend)**

**Rocky Ripple Community Assn**  
**White River (Indianapolis)**

**North Putnam Middle School**  
**Big Walnut Creek (Bainbridge)**



### ***Riffles & Pools* is a quarterly publication of Hoosier Riverwatch.**

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